

March/April 2017

Volume 24 Issue 4

Agency News

An employee publication of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice

TDCJ Fallen Officers Memorial ceremony to open National Correctional Officers and Employees Week

n Friday, May 5, TDCJ will hold its annual Fallen Officers Memorial ceremony to honor correctional employees who have lost their lives in the line of duty. This year's ceremony holds special significance as the agency honors Correctional Officer Mari Anne Johnson, a seven-year corrections professional from the Robertson Unit in Abilene, who lost her life on July 16 when she was attacked by an offender. TDCJ units across the state will also hold memorial events in honor of her sacrifice, as well as the sacrifice of correctional staff around the nation who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The memorial service in Huntsville is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. and will be held on the grounds of the Texas Prison Museum. TDCJ Executive Director Bryan Collier and Texas Board of Criminal Justice Chairman Dale Wainwright are included among the scheduled speakers.

National Correctional Officers and Employees Week 2017 is May 7 to 13

"No group of Americans has a more difficult or less publicly visible job than the brave men and women who work in our correctional facilities."

- President Ronald Reagan

The 2017 National Correctional Officers and Employees Week takes place from Sunday, May 7 through Saturday, May 13. The week recognizes the work of correctional officers and personnel who work in jails, prisons and community corrections around the country. TDCJ has supported this annual event since its inception, and this marks the 33rd consecutive year the agency has honored the dedicated public service of professional correctional officers and corrections staff by hosting recognition events throughout the

state. For more information about National Correctional Officers and Employees Week activities in your area, contact your regional CID director's office.

Coverage of the memorial ceremony and Correctional Officers and Employees Week will be included in the next issue of *Connections.*